



# Borough of Tamworth



## ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December, 1959

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
9, LADY BANK  
TAMWORTH.

Tamworth Herald Co., Ltd., Printers





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**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
9, LADY BANK,  
TAMWORTH.**

## *Borough of Tamworth*

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### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

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Alderman F. W. Morgan, B.E.M., Chairman.

Councillor J. T. Betteridge, Vice-Chairman.

Alderman R. M. Turner

Councillor F. A. Allsopp	Councillor E. Collins
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„ E. L. Edkins	„ F. A. Jewsbury
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„ K. A. Mugleston	„ L. H. Spooner
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„ M. Sutton	„ R. W. F. Walton (Mayor)
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Councillor D. Wood

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#### Medical Officer of Health:

**A. Farnill Morgan, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.**

#### Senior Public Health Inspector:

**H. Birchwood, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I..**

Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods.

#### Additional Public Health Inspector:

**G. E. Webb, C.S.I.B.**

#### Health Visitors and School Nurses:

**Miss E. M. E. Hagstrom, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.**

**Mrs. W. Clements, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.**

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF

## THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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**TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH**

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit a report on the health of the Bororgh for the year 1959 and, in doing so, point ont that during this period I was not your Medical Officer of Health. The report, therefore, is a statistical one compiled from information collected from many sources, by the Health Department.

The Birth Rate was 14.5 and the Death Rate 11.3. No deaths were attributable to childbirth.

The Infant Mortality Rate at 20.5 continues to fall and again reflects the high standard of care on the part of General Medical Practitioners and Health Visitors in the Borough.

Twenty-seven cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified during the year, and there were no cases of Polionnyelitis.

Clearance Areas comprising 13 unfit houses and nine Council-owned houses were dealt with during the year.

In view of the fact that I was not the Medical Officer of Health for the year under review, I have no further comment to make regarding the state of Public Health in the Borough in 1959 and will now proceed to make the Report.

A. BLENCH,  
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1959.

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Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	2,678
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	...	...	...	...	...	13,430
(Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	12,889
(Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	11,711
(Census, 1921)	...	...	...	...	...	8,032
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1959) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	4,398
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	3,688
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	2,785
Persons per Acre	...	...	...	...	...	4.9
Rateable Value—December, 1959	...	...	...	...	£	171,144
Product of 1d. Rate—December, 1959	...	...	...	...	£	695

## VITAL STATISTICS

**Live Births—**

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	184	88	96
Illegitimate	11	8	3
	<u>195</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>99</u>

Birth Rate 14.5.

**Still Births—**

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	11	4	7
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population ... .8

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 57.9

**Deaths from all Causes**

	Total.	Male.	Female.
	152	72	80
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	... ...	... ...	11.3

**Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age**

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	2	2	—
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

**Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age**

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	2	2	—
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

**Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age**

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ... 20.5

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ... ... 10.8

## CAUSES OF DEATH

		Male.	Female.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—
Syphilitic disease	...	...	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	—
Meningococcal infections	...	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	4	—
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	2	4
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	—	2
Diabetes	...	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	10	23
Coronary disease, angina	...	20	9
Hypertension with heart disease	...	—	—
Other heart disease	...	8	9
Other circulatory disease	...	2	5
Influenza	...	4	1
Pneumonia	...	3	10
Bronchitis	...	2	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	7	8
Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	1
All other accidents	...	1	1
Suicide	...	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—
Totals, all causes	...	72	80

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified together with the age groups.  
**INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1959.**

Disease	Total cases at all ages	Under 1 year	Total Cases Notified										Cases admitted to Hospitals
			1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 60	
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	7	...	...	2	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	4	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	...	8	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	5	5
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Totals</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

## FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to R.G.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total, —
—	—	—	—	—

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents:

Total outbreaks, Nil.	Total Cases, Nil.
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Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:

Total outbreaks, Nil.	Total Cases, Nil.
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Single Cases:

Agent identified, Nil.	Unknown causes, Nil.	Total, Nil.
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## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Age at 31.12.59 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 1959	1-4 1955-8	5-9 1950-4	10-14 1945-9	Total under 15
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(a) Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1955-1959 ... 36 573 337 235 1,181

(b) Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1954, or earlier — — 503 922 1,425

Immunised during 1959	Under 5	5-15	Total	Booster all ages
	158	6	164	13

## TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1959.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS			7	—	1	—		

## HOUSING

The following table gives details of the Council's post-war housing programmes.

	Fazeley Road		Amington Road		Gillway		Bolehall Estate		Lichfield Street		Bolebridge Street	
	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Flats Allocated	No. of Flats Completed
1947	66	42	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1948	40	24	52	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	60	2	—	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	84	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	—	106	—	—	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	—	—	—	—	156	114	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	—	—	—	—	102	192	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	—	—	—	—	100	92	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	—	—	—	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	—	—
1956	6	6	—	—	21	30	12	—	—	—	—	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	68	—	76	—
1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	68	—	76
	256	256	104	104	525	525	12	12	68	68	76	76

### Housing Applications:

List at 1st January, 1959—

	House-holders.	Lodgers.	Total.
Applicants residing in the Borough	188	275	463
Applicants residing outside Borough	205	362	567
	393	637	1,030

List at 31st December, 1959—

Applicants residing in the Borough	137	156	293
Applicants residing outside Borough	244	226	470
	381	382	763

## **HOSPITALS**

All hospitals in the Borough are included in the Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Tamworth Group under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and are as follows :—

- Tamworth General Hospital.
- St. Editha's Hospital.
- Tamworth Isolation Hospital.

## **MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION**

No maternity accommodation is provided at the Hospitals in the Borough.

## **CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES**

These are under the County Council (except Tuberculosis and Orthopædic Clinics) since the 5th July, 1948.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held twice weekly.

A School Clinic is held weekly.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held weekly.

Eye Clinics are held fortnightly.

Dental Clinics are held weekly for expectant and nursing mothers, toddlers and school children.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held weekly at the College Lane Schools.

A Chest Clinic is held at St. Editha's Hospital.

## **AMBULANCE SERVICE**

An ambulance is stationed at Tamworth and is available during the daytime. The Lichfield ambulance is available at all other times.

## WATER SUPPLY

**Source of Supply.**—Well and bore hole at Hopwas Pumping Station. South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

**Gallons Pumped during 1959.** — 206,448,000 Gallons.

Received from South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, 117,117,750.

**Well.**—Highest, 4ft.; Lowest, 1ft.

**Treatment Before Distribution.**—The supply is chlorinated en route to the high level reservoir at Hopwas, and the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company is chlorinated at source.

All dwelling houses in the Borough have a piped supply, either direct into the house or by means of standpipes.

Approximate number of houses supplied:—

				Population
(a) Direct to houses	4,375	...	...	13,354
(b) By means of Standpipes	24	...	...	76

**Rainfall.**—The Rainfall for the year 1959 was 19.44in.

With the assistance of the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, it was possible to give a continuous supply to all consumers throughout the year, at pressures ranging from 30lbs. to 80lbs.

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During the year, 8 samples of water have been obtained by the Health Department from domestic supplies in various parts of the Borough and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The results were satisfactory. The water is not plumbo solvent. There is a fairly high degree of hardness.

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## OPEN-AIR SWIMMING BATHS

Routine samples were taken during the summer months when the baths were open. Bacteriological analyses were all satisfactory. "Break-point" chlorination was used.

These baths are a very valuable health asset to the Borough and are well patronised.

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

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**Housing Act, 1957.**

The Spring Gardens Clearance Order, made in 1958, and comprising 54 houses, was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government early in the year.

The following Clearance Orders were also confirmed:

				No. of houses
Amington Road Clearance Order		...	...	2
Victoria Road	„	„	...	2
Lichfield Street	„	„	...	9
Closing Orders — 86 Lichfield Street and No. 4 Court 3 Lichfield Street		...	...	2
Demolition Order—2 Fazeley Road		...	...	1
Council owned properties	...	...	...	9
				<hr/> <u>25</u> <hr/>

**Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954.**

**House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.**

Twenty-three applications were received for grants to improve properties, 13 of these were for Standard Grants under the new legislation.

**Rent Act, 1957.**

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year. One certificate previously issued was cancelled.

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of types of closet accommodation existing at the end of the year is as follows—

No. of Houses	No. of Privies	No. of Pails	No. of Water Closets	Per cent. Drv	Per cent. Water Closets
4,398	6	34	5,135	0.9	99.1

The privy and pail type of closet are in the rural parts of the Borough where no sewer is available.

There are approximately 20 premises served by a system of drainage discharging to cesspools.

## INSPECTIONS

The following statement shows the number of visits and inspections to various classes of premises.

Visits and Inspections	Number
Inspection of drains of old property ...	16
Other inspections of existing property ...	289
To work in progress ...	316
,, test drains and sanitary fittings ...	26
,, premises re infectious diseases ...	16
,, tuberculous cases ...	6
,, respecting disinfection ...	10
,, cowsheds, dairies and milkshops ...	28
,, bakehouses ...	34
,, slaughterhouses ...	454
,, manure steads ...	7
,, factories ...	32
,, outworkers' premises ...	4
,, shops re Shops Acts ...	175
,, „ re Meat Regulations ...	50
,, food inspection ...	274
,, offensive trades ...	4
Miscellaneous visits ...	96
Housing Acts ...	264
Caravans ...	34
Rodent Control ...	142
	2,277

## COMPLAINTS

Nature of Complaint					Number Received
Choked passage drain	...	...	...	...	10
„ slopstone waste pipe	...	...	...	...	6
„ water closet	...	...	...	...	34
„ yard drain	...	...	...	...	12
Defective water closet basin	...	...	...	...	10
„ dust bin	...	...	...	...	84
„ wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	28
„ house roof	...	...	...	...	42
„ windows	...	...	...	...	16
„ kitchen sink	...	...	...	...	8
„ cooking range	...	...	...	...	14
„ floors	...	...	...	...	19
„ doors and frames	...	...	...	...	8
„ wash-houses and washing coppers	...	...	...	...	12
„ yard surface	...	...	...	...	3
„ walls	...	...	...	...	23
„ gutters	...	...	...	...	64
„ drains	...	...	...	...	10
Dampness of house	...	...	...	...	56
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	6
Dirty house	...	...	...	...	3
General insanitary conditions	...	...	...	...	3
House infested with vermin	...	...	...	...	4
Nuisance from keeping animals	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulation of manure	...	...	...	...	3
Rat infested premises	...	...	...	...	148
Emission of smoke	...	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	64
					708

To secure the abatement of these defective conditions, 112 informal notices were served.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Number of Cases in which defects were found	Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
		Inspections	Written notices		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	14	14	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	96	30	4	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
Number of cases in which defects were found					
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
<b>Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)</b>					
(a) Insufficient ...	...	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	...	3	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	...	1	—	1	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>

Four persons were returned as Outworkers under the Act, and these were engaged on wearing apparel. Visits were made and in each case the home conditions were considered suitable.

## **FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.**

There are twenty-three butchers' shops, six bakehouses and thirty-four food preparing premises in the Borough.

Routine visits have been made during the year and together with the requirements of the above Regulations and in the face of everyday competitive trading, purveyors of food-stuffs are gradually improving their premises.

## DAIRY FARMS, DAIRIES, RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	10
Dairies	...	...	...	4
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	12

The Borough of Tamworth is included in a Specified Area and all dairymen who retail milk in the Borough must sell milk under special designation. The special designations authorised to be sold are " Pasteurised," " Sterilised " and " Tuberculin Tested."

All retailers obtain their supplies so treated and bottled from wholesalers outside the Borough.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

An employee of the Council is trained and engaged in part-time rodent control work.

One hundred and forty-eight inspections were made and forty-four premises were found to be infested. The facilities provided by the Council were made available to the owners or occupiers and the infestations were successfully treated by pre-baiting and poisoning.

Half-yearly treatment of the sewers and periodical treatment of the Council's refuse disposal tip has been carried out.

## SANITARY SUPERVISION OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

The cinemas and other places of entertainment have been periodically inspected with regard to the sanitary accommodation.

The managements have been found anxious to maintain the conveniences in a satisfactory condition, and any defects found have at once been remedied.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924-1935****Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1958.**

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough and the following animals have been killed:—

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1958	... 1,248	32	3,530	3,689
1959	... 700	2	1,753	2,845

The total number of animals slaughtered shows a reduction on last year — one butcher previously carrying on a wholesale trade, gave up this side of his business, and in consequence of which Saturday and Sunday inspections have not been necessary.

Meat Condemned	Weight in lbs.
7 pig carcases—Generalised Tuberculosis ...	1,147
1 beast carcase—Johnnes Disease ...	360
1 beast part carcase—Tuberculosis ...	171
	<hr/>
	1,678
<hr/>	
Organs:	
Cattle ... ... ... ...	2,777
Calves ... ... ... ...	<hr/>
Sheep ... ... ... ...	80
Pigs ... ... ... ...	520
	<hr/>
	3,377
<hr/>	<hr/>
Other Foods ... ... ... ...	969
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total amount condemned ... ... ...	6,024
<hr/>	<hr/>
= 2 tons, 13 cwts. 3qrs. 4 lbs.	

*Carcases Slaughtered and Examined*

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Cow/ Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
1958 Number killed	788	87	373	32	3530	3689
1959 Number killed	498	2	200	2	1753	2845
Number Inspected ...	498	2	200	2	1753	2845
<b>Diseases except Tuberculosis</b>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	61	—	48	—	35	39
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	12.2	50.0	24.0	—	1.9	1.3
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	10	—	16	—	—	57
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	2.0	—	8.0	—	—	2.0
<b>Cysticercus Bovis</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Submitted to refrig- eration ... ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—



